

# KENNEDY-KING CONNECTIONS

A DREAM FULFILLED



2024  
ANNUAL  
REPORT

56TH GALA CELEBRATION

**AMY VREELAND**  
KENNEDY-KING SCHOLAR, UCLA GRADUATE,  
CANCER RESEARCHER, KENNEDY-KING BOARD MEMBER  
READ HER STORY INSIDE



# BOARD UPDATE



## Message from President, Art Rangel

Hello Kennedy-King Supporters,

Our board once speculated that the day would come when our mission would become obsolete. How wrong we were! The need to support Contra Costa County's underrepresented minority community college students attending a four-year college or university seems as relevant today as it was 56 years ago. We have now awarded 902 such scholarships in addition to 122 Alumni Scholarships for Graduate School and 210 Regalia Scholarships to help some students get through the community college level.

We continue to face challenges brought about by the pandemic and as a primarily volunteer-managed organization. This year, we welcomed Amy Vreeland as our newest board member and bid farewell to Ellen Williams, Laurie Fox, and Jeff Hughes. We also extend our heartfelt thanks to John McPeak for his many years of service, as he will retire from the board at the end of this fiscal year. Many board members took on new duties, and others continue to work hard in the background, keeping the organization going. We are challenged with an aging donor base and are actively cultivating new donors.

The board and I thank all of you who keep our mission relevant and actionable, especially our sponsors and donors, without whom we could not fulfill this mission.

Art Rangel  
Kennedy-King Board President  
May 2024

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Art Rangel, President  
Loella Haskew, Treasurer  
Ella Gower, Counsel  
Miguel Mauricio, Donor Relations

Leo Bojorquez  
Mical Cayton  
Dr. Vicki Ferguson  
Felicia Harris-Foster  
Keiko Kobayashi  
Nikki Maziasz  
John McPeak  
Mojdeh Medizadeh  
Uriel "Ose" Oseguera  
Daniel Ponce  
Eva Preciado-Lumsden  
Barbara Simmons  
Maria Solemnidad  
Cecilia Stoddard-Diethelm  
Dr. Ameer Thompson  
Amy Vreeland

YEAR IN

# REVIEW

## HIGHLIGHTS



### KENNEDY-KING 2023 GALA CELEBRATION

TONY THURMOND,  
CA STATE  
SUPERINTENDENT  
OF PUBLIC  
INSTRUCTION

Tony was a keynote speaker at our 2023 Gala Celebration, along with inspirational alumni, scholarship recipients and their families.



### JIM KENNEDY BART GREENS DEDICATION

Kennedy-King board members celebrating Jim's greenway dedication. Shown from left: Keiko Kobayashi, Leo Bojorquez, Cecilia Stoddard-Diethelm, John McPeak, Jim Kennedy, Miguel Mauricio, Ellen Williams, Art Rangel and Nikki Maziasz.

## WINTER MIXER



From left to right: Saidy Aceituno, Daniela Lopez, Ana Hernandez

Alumni, board members, and donors came together to share experiences, bond, and network. Join our mailing list, and follow us on social media so you don't miss our August Mixer!

## CONTRA COSTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT TURNS 75!



CCCD names Kennedy-King Board Member, Mojdeh Mehdizadeh, its new Chancellor. Shown here with 2024 Graduate Scholarship Recipient, Bridgette Garcia Alvarado.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Two of our dedicated board members, Leonardo Bojorquez and Eva Preciado-Lumsden, are collaborating to provide outreach to the community. If you would like them to speak to your organization about the importance of the Kennedy-King mission, please contact us @kennedyking.org/contact-us.

**Follow us on LinkedIn and Facebook for all of our events and happenings!**

# SCHOLAR

## MEET DIEUDONNÉ BROU

I am a proud 2015 Recipient of the Kennedy-King Scholarship and after 2 ½ years at Diablo Valley College, I transferred to UCLA, with a double major in sociology and African American Studies. I currently work at the Urban Peace Movement, as a Youth Justice Initiatives and Program Coordinator, following a passion as a youth justice activist, facilitating programs with young African American men, doing work around jails and juvenile halls in Oakland and statewide doing advocacy coalition work with Free Our Kids Coalition of Alameda County. I am also a shoe designer and the proud owner and founder of Koffi Noir.

The Kennedy-King scholarship was an opportunity to contribute to the person I am today. Before I was a student at DVC, I was formerly incarcerated, not even sure about the community around me or if that community would be able to support me in my educational journey.

When the Kennedy-King scholarship was brought to my attention, I was very hesitant to apply for it because for one, I wasn't even sure that I would win the scholarship and number two, I thought that my record was going to serve as a hindrance or a barrier to me even being selected. But once I told my story, it opened up a lot of opportunities, and I actually started earning more scholarships and getting more people on my side, pushing me forward and encouraging me, including a mentor from Kennedy-King.

This is all something for you to think about as you are on your journey. Do not let anything stop you and do not let any barriers be the reason why you cannot get to where you need to. If there's a will there's a way.

I'm just so happy to be able to support social justice and young Black men in our community. Thanks, Kennedy-King, for being that spark for me and providing this opportunity that will always last with me for the rest of my life!

A circular portrait of Dieudonné Brou, a Black man with a mustache, wearing a bright orange knit beanie, glasses, and a grey patterned scarf. He is looking slightly to the right of the camera.

**DIEUDONNÉ BROU,  
KENNEDY-KING  
SCHOLAR, UCLA  
GRADUATE,  
COMMUNITY LEADER  
AND ENTREPRENEUR**

# SPOT LIGHT

## MEET AMY VREELAND

**FROM LMC STUDENT TO KENNEDY-KING SCHOLAR TO KENNEDY-KING BOARD MEMBER.**



For years, I labored relentlessly to realize my ambition of attending UCLA, all the way from Nigeria. Little did I know that this dream would one day become a reality. Circumstances prevented me from enrolling directly after high school, so I enrolled in community college and earned an Associate's degree in Liberal Arts, Math, and Science from Los Medanos College. I am grateful to LMC Counselors Melissa Pon and Nicole Trager for encouraging me to apply for a Kennedy-King Memorial College scholarship. That action became a crucial bridge to my aspirations.

The scholarship helped fund my transfer to UCLA as a Molecular, Cell, and Developmental Biology Major. This journey was not one I undertook alone; it was made possible through the unwavering support of my family and the invaluable assistance of the Kennedy-King Memorial College Scholarship Fund organization. Their aid not only helped financially but also provided me with mentors Ellen Williams, Emeritus board member, and her husband Brad Macy, who continue to guide me through challenges.

Today, I am very satisfied with my role as a research associate specializing in immunology for cancer research. I actively contribute to advancing pharmaceutical, biotechnology, academic, and diagnostic initiatives worldwide by delivering high-quality cellular products. Furthermore, I am honored to have been appointed board member and secretary of the Kennedy-King Memorial College Scholarship Fund. This opportunity allows me to actively contribute to the betterment of my community, aligning with my longstanding aspiration to give back. Serving in this capacity represents another meaningful milestone in my journey with the Kennedy-King Memorial College Scholarship Fund.

## MEET LUIS YATACO

**KENNEDY-KING SCHOLAR,  
UC BERKELEY GRADUATE,  
DATA SYSTEMS MANAGER,  
UC BERKELEY**

**"DESPITE SOME CHALLENGES  
ALONG THE WAY AND THANKS  
TO THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT I  
RECEIVED FROM KENNEDY-  
KING, I SUCCESSFULLY  
GRADUATED FROM  
UC BERKELEY."**

Luis Yataco's educational journey began at Diablo Valley College (DVC), where he set his sights on earning a Bachelor's in Cognitive Science from the University of California, Berkeley. Transitioning from DVC to UC Berkeley, he navigated the academic landscape with determination and purpose. While at DVC, Luis wasn't solely focused on his studies but also actively engaged in campus life. As a Student Ambassador, he welcomed and supported his peers, fostering a sense of community. This spirit of service continued at UC Berkeley, where he became a Peer Advocate, extending a helping hand to fellow students in need.

Driven by his passion for making a difference, Luis found his niche as a Data and Systems Manager at UC Berkeley. Collaborating with various departments, including the Transfer Student Center and the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, he is pivotal in enhancing student support systems.

Having experienced the challenges of transitioning between academic institutions firsthand, Luis empathizes with the struggles faced by transfer students. Drawing from his own journey, he channels his passion for student advocacy to positively influence the lives of those around him, ensuring that every student feels supported and empowered on their educational path.



# THANK YOU DONORS

## KENNEDY-KING BENEFACTOR

Barbara Louie Fund @East Bay Community Foundation  
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Ron & Diane de Golia  
Frank & Kathy Gouveia  
Leshar Foundation  
John & Sunne McPeak  
Miller Starr Regalia  
Arthur & Robin Rangel  
Sharon Simpson  
Swarts Scholarship Endowment Fund  
The Treehouse Fund  
Alfonse Upshaw



**"I wanted to support Kennedy-King as an alumni because they supported me and my family in more ways than money can buy. Thank you, Kennedy-King!"**

TAMARA SCHROEDER, 2009 AND 2020  
KENNEDY-KING SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

## SCHOLARSHIP BENEFACTOR

Gagen, McCoy, McMahon, Koss, Markowitz & Fanucci  
Greg & Michele McCoy

## ACADEMIC BENEFACTOR

Laurie Fox  
Kaiser-Permanente  
Jim & Janet Kennedy  
Nikki Maziasz  
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## SPECIAL PATRON

Dr. Helen Benjamin  
Contra Costa Community College District &  
Chancellor's Office  
Diablo Valley College Foundation  
Eden Housing  
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Los Medanos College Foundation  
Mt. Diablo Resource Recovery  
Thomas O'Brien  
Uriel & Isabella Oseguera  
Rotary Club of Martinez  
Jan Zaitlin Fund



**"When a person goes to college, it changes the trajectory of their entire family"**

MICAL CAYTON, CEO  
COMMUNITY MEDICAL CENTER, INC.  
KENNEDY-KING BOARD MEMBER SINCE 2020



**“Cesar Chavez said ‘To make a great dream come true, the first requirement is a great capacity to dream; the second is persistence.’ Investing in education supports our capacity for hope and equity, for emerging leaders. It is my honor, through United Latinos Voices, to support Kennedy-King’s mission”**

FERNANDO SANDOVAL, CONTRA COSTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD

## **PATRON**

Avalon Bay Communities  
Steve Bernstein  
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United Latino Voices  
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Kent & Leisa Walker  
Ellen Williams & Brad Macy

## **SUSTAINING CONTRIBUTOR**

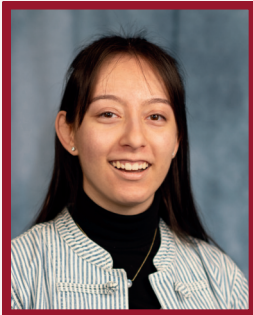
Clifford & Terry Bowen  
Edmund Buenger  
Paul & Michelle Fadelli  
Dr. Tony Gordon  
Christine Kovar  
Christopher Leivas  
Bill & Robyn Mohr  
Letitia Moore  
Jim & Gail Murray  
Gary & Jean Pokorny  
Maria Reyes  
Hon. Maria Rivera  
Tom and Cindy Silva  
Diane Scott-Summers  
Debbie Tyler-Ovick  
Brian Vandervoet  
David Wood & Kat Garrison



**“It is an honor to give back to the Kennedy-King community by taking up the role of donor relations from Jim Kennedy’s esteemed time in the role. I look forward to continuing Kennedy-King’s donor relations program to support the next generation of scholars. Thank you to all the supporters of Kennedy-King!”**

MIGUEL MAURICIO, POLICY DIRECTOR  
EAST BAY LEADERSHIP COUNCIL  
BOARD MEMBER SINCE 2022  
KENNEDY-KING 2014 UNDERGRADUATE AND 2021  
GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

# Undergraduate Scholars



**DIANE ACOSTA, BARBARA LOUIE FUND SCHOLAR  
UC BERKELEY, PSYCHOLOGY**

Diana Acosta is a first-generation student and the daughter of immigrants who aspires to one day become either a social worker, marriage and family therapist, or a college counselor. Inspired by her parent's sacrifices to provide her with the support she needed, Diana wants to use her career to help and support others. This is reflected in her involvement on campus, where she helps support other first-generation students navigate higher education.

**SAMANTHA RAMOS ALVA  
UC DAVIS, PSYCHOLOGY**



Samantha Ramos Alva is a first-generation college student from a Latino household and aspires to earn her Master's degree in Psychology, aiming for a career in academic counseling through further graduate studies. Actively engaged in The Puente Project and dedicating two years as a committed Student Ambassador, she actively contributes to her college community, promoting inclusivity. Volunteering at Casa Club de la Hispanidad, Alva focuses on supporting first-generation students and her Latinx community.



**ASHLY ALVAREZ, CHEVRON SCHOLAR  
UC BERKELEY, COMPUTER SCIENCE**

Ashly Alvarez overcame significant obstacles and turbulence in her youth, including having to abruptly move to Columbia after her parents were deported in 2008. When she returned to the U.S. after high school, Ashly dove into her studies and enrolled at DVC, where she is now the Student Body President. On top of remaining a stellar student and being heavily involved in her community, Ashly works full-time to support herself and her studies. Ashly stands as an example of resilience and hard work and hopes to inspire others to find their path to success.

**URIEL CARDOZA  
UCLA, HUMAN BIOLOGY AND SOCIETY**



Uriel Cardoza is a first-generation Mexican-American and first-generation college student at Los Medanos College. Uriel aspires to become a physician assistant and use his lived experience growing up facing health barriers to mitigate health disparities and connect underserved Latinx communities to quality medical care. He has developed his passion for fostering a more inclusive health system through public health internships and work that have helped him find his voice as a future health leader.



**DEMETRI CARTWRIGHT, CHEVRON SCHOLAR  
UC SAN DIEGO, MECHANICAL ENGINEERING**

Demetri Cartwright has experienced firsthand the financial difficulties associated with growing up low-income. His family's constant hard work, in light of this hardship, instilled a strong work ethic, giving him a deeper appreciation for his parents' sacrifices and resilience. Despite early challenges in his college journey, he has an unwavering determination. He is committed to pushing through and seizing the opportunities that lie ahead in his academic journey.



**JOSELYN MARTINEZ CHICAS, LAURIE FOX SCHOLAR  
SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY, PSYCHOLOGY**

Josselyn Martinez was born in El Salvador and came to the United States in 2014 seeking asylum after fleeing from violence in her home country. She aims to become a social worker to assist others just as her family was helped upon arriving in the United States. She currently works part-time at a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the well-being of individuals with a disability. She strives to give individuals living with a disability the opportunity for an independent lifestyle.



**HUGO CORTES, JOHN & SUNNE MCPEAK SCHOLAR  
SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY, POLITICAL SCIENCE**



Hugo Cortes dreams of one day becoming a lawyer where he can become an advocate for those who have disabilities and fight for their voices to be heard. Despite overcoming learning disabilities/challenges, Hugo maintains a high GPA and engages actively in his community. In 2021, he worked on a local political campaign educating voters about key issues affecting the community and urging voters to vote.

**AMYE ELBERT, ARTHUR & ROBIN RANGEL SCHOLAR  
UC BERKELEY, ART EDUCATION**

Amye Elbert's life can be summed up by her resilience and transformation. She overcame a tumultuous childhood plagued by neglect, abuse, and instability but emerged as a survivor fueled by a passion for art and education. Amye's story is a testament to the power of hope and perseverance, detailing her evolution from a troubled past to a future brimming with purpose. To her, the Kennedy-King Scholarship represents more than just financial support; it symbolizes a recognition of her journey, resilience, and dedication to using her experiences and education to inspire and support others.



**HEATH GALIWANGO, STEPHEN SCHAEFER SCHOLAR  
UCLA, HUMAN BIOLOGY AND SOCIETY**



Heath Galiwango is a first-generation student interested in pursuing a career in medicine. Heath is interested in using his experiences and adversity overcoming mental health issues to his advantage by helping his community in ventures such as volunteering on and off campus. In the future, Heath plans to eventually open up a private practice centered on youths, elementary through high school aged, working alongside mental health clinicians to whom he can refer patients to if they have suffered mental abuse.

**MARIELA GARCIA, SWARTS SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND  
SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY, SOCIOLOGY**

Mariela Garcia is a former foster youth who returned to college after ten years. Despite encountering setbacks, Mariela's life story represents resilience and unwavering determination. Juggling the responsibilities of motherhood, work, and health setbacks, she remained steadfast in pursuing higher education at Contra Costa College. Her ultimate aspiration is to become an educational counselor, driven by the belief in the transformative power of resilience and education in overcoming life's greatest adversities.





**DANIELA HERNANDEZ, STEPHEN SCHAEFER SCHOLAR  
UC DAVIS, ANIMAL BIOLOGY**

Daniela Hernandez is a first-generation student who has learned the importance of stepping out of her comfort zone, allowing her to grow mentally and academically. Daniela has had to overcome many struggles, but overcoming her adversities has allowed her to acknowledge and appreciate the amount of endurance needed to overcome any future obstacles. Through her parent's sacrifices, she has understood the sacrifices she is willing to make. Daniela aims to attend veterinary school one day and operate her own practice.

**TAMARA JEFFERSON, ARTHUR & ROBIN RANGEL SCHOLAR  
UNIVERSITY OF UTAH, NURSING**

Tamara Jefferson's dream is to help people in as many ways as possible by learning all she can. Inspired by seeing her single mother raise five children, she aspires to one day use the knowledge she gains from her education to create an organization that has everything a person could possibly need to succeed. Prior to attending community college, Tamara worked in various jobs and volunteered for Habitat for Humanity. She was inspired by the everyday experiences of the people she met prior to attending college to make a positive impact on the lives of others.



**NATALIE KLAPPERICH, FRANK & KATHY GOVEIA SCHOLAR  
UC DAVIS, PSYCHOLOGY**

Natalie Klapperich, a proud person of Asháninka ancestry, intends to use their educational experience to help individuals with their mental health problems by being a counselor assistant or a part of a mental health facility team. Natalie volunteers with the Rainbow Community Center(RCC) in Concord, which gives them the opportunity to help those in the LGBTQ+ community.

**SAMANTHA VALLE MERAZ  
UC MERCED, PUBLIC HEALTH**

Samantha Valle Meraz's dream is to live a life without fear and instability, attain a quality education, and bring herself and her family out of crushing poverty. As an immigrant, Samantha encountered significant hurdles in learning English and succeeding in education. Despite her disability and society's expectations of her, she is proud to have attained her associate's degree and strives to accomplish more at a higher institution.



**CHARLES MCCOY, GREGORY & MICHELLE MC COY SCHOLAR  
UCLA, SOCIOLOGY**

Charles McCoy, raised by a single mother, is inspired to understand the biases people construct of others in order to challenge those assumptions and empower those who have felt overlooked by society. This is why he is interested in pursuing a career in counseling, where he can help others who feel like outcasts in society and support and uplift those individuals.

**ESSENCE MCCOY, JOHN & SUNNE MCPEAK SCHOLAR  
SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY, NURSING**

Essence McCoy is a first-generation college student who has a passion for nursing, which is fueled by her journey of overcoming adversity. She has shown significant resilience, overcoming childhood struggles in special education and addiction, to become a college graduate. She spends time working with disabled children, strengthening her empathy, and intends to use this in her future career. Essence intends to continue her educational journey, enhance her impact in healthcare, and advocate for the unheard.



**MARLEN DEL RIO, KAISER-PERMANENTE SCHOLAR  
SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY, RN BSN**

Marlen Del Rio will complete her time in a community college with a perfect 4.0 GPA in all her nursing prerequisite courses. Her long term goal is to become a nurse practitioner some day. Throughout her time in higher education, life has caused Marlen to put her education on hold to help support her family. When she is not studying or in class, she is working to help support herself financially.



**MARLENE GOMEZ SARATE, SHARON SIMPSON SCHOLAR  
UC BERKELEY, POLITICAL SCIENCE**

Marlene Gomez Sarate has challenged imposed gender-normative ideals her entire life and has used this experience to inform her decision to study political science. Despite lacking resources, knowledge, and support, she led an independent journey to find opportunities. She joined educational programs that supported her journey and inspired her career and educational goals of becoming an educator. Now, she serves as a supplemental student instructor and tutor at DVC..



**CHRISTINA SCOTT, RON & DIANE DE GOLIA SCHOLAR  
UC BERKELEY, PSYCHOLOGY**

Christina Scott is a first generation college student and Bay Area native. During early 2020, Christina became a victim of a violent crime that left her permanently disabled and making life and obtaining higher education incredibly difficult. In addition to persevering through her health issues, Christina also faced severe housing insecurity which has made it even more difficult to adequately attend to her health issues and continue her studies. Despite this, Christina has maintained a high GPA and been significantly involved with various organizations on campus.



**ELRIANA STYLES, NIKKI MAZIASZ SCHOLAR  
UC BERKELEY, BIOLOGY, PSYCHOLOGY**

Elriana Styles is a student whose resilience has shone through by overcoming adversity. While pursuing a double major in biology and psychology, she has had to overcome familial challenges and financial struggles. Her determination and passion for understanding and helping others propelled her to maintain academic excellence and community involvement. Elriana's journey has been shaped by scientific research, community service, and personal growth. She aspires to bridge the gap between biology and psychology, striving for improved healthcare outcomes for underserved populations and one day attending medical school.

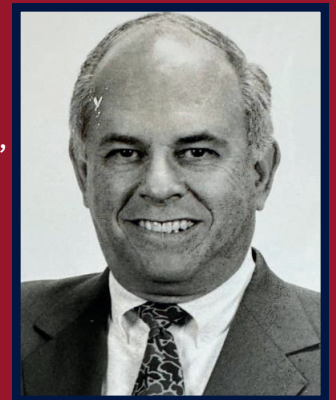


## Ron DeGolia In Memoriam

We honor Ron DeGolia, a former Kennedy-King board member who served from 2001 to 2018 and passed away in December. His contributions include serving as a member of our scholarship selection committee, our annual celebration dinner, and for several years as the College and University Relations Scholarship coordinator, working with our scholars, board members, and the financial officers of colleges and universities to make sure our scholarships were put to use.

Ron championed education and believed it was vital for everyone, especially youth. He quoted Martin Luther King Jr.: "The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically, intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education." His contributions to the scholarship fund allowed scholars to pursue their educational goals.

Known for his warm smile, firm handshake, and welcoming demeanor, Ron effortlessly connected with people. Alongside Kennedy-King, he volunteered with the Center for Human Development, the Contra Costa Civil Grand Jury, the Crisis Hotline, and the WCPD, where he earned the nickname "Officer Friendly" for his kind approach to enforcing handicapped parking. Ron's passion for life, family, community, and others enriched our organization. We were privileged to have him on our board for many years.



# Graduate Scholars



**GLORIA BELTRAN, LESHAR FOUNDATION SCHOLAR  
SAN JOSE STATE, MASTER'S IN SOCIAL WORK**

Gloria Menjivar, an immigrant who lived through El Salvador's civil war, is a single mother of two who graduated from Sacramento State with honors and currently attends San Jose State to receive her master's in social work. In addition to going to graduate school and being a single mother, Gloria also serves her community through her work as a Mental Health Specialist in Contra Costa County Behavioral Health. Gloria aspires to become a licensed social worker to provide therapy services to disadvantaged community groups.



**CLARA CAMPOS, GAGEN, MC MCOY, MC MAHON, KOSS, MARKOWITZ & FANUCCI SCHOLAR  
UC DAVIS, MASTER'S IN SPANISH**

Clara Campos aspires for a career teaching Spanish and English as a second language at the collegiate level where she can foster learning in diverse settings, and promote inclusivity for all students. During her time as an undergraduate student Clara balanced life as a commuting student and single parent, which required her to commute during harsh weather and at times sleep in her car. Despite her adversities, Clara has remained steadfast in her goal of bridging language barriers and empowering individuals to achieve their goals. Clara will begin her master's work in Spanish at UC Davis this fall.



**THYRA COBBS, THE TREEHOUSE FUND SCHOLAR  
UCLA, MASTER'S IN AFRICAN STUDIES**

Thyra Cobbs is a first-generation, low-income, and financially independent student interested in developing Pan-African-centered approaches to psychological science and clinical interventions. As an undergrad at UCLA, Thyra was designated as a McNair Scholar, where her research focused on the philosophies of Continental and Diasporic Africans, indigenous African healing practices, and the mental health experiences of African-descended college students at predominantly white institutions.



**BRIDGETTE GARCIA ALVARADO  
GAGEN, MC MCOY, MC MAHON, KOSS, MARKOWITZ & FANUCCI SCHOLAR  
ST. MARY'S COLLEGE, MASTER'S IN HIGHER EDUCATION & STUDENT AFFAIRS AND PROFESSIONAL  
CLINICAL COUNSELING**

Bridgette Garcia Alvarado is the proud product of two immigrant parents. Despite never imagining she would go on to have a higher education, Bridgette completed her undergraduate degree at twenty-one and is now a graduate student at Saint Mary's College. Inspired by witnessing her parents struggle to make ends meet, She hopes to obtain her degree in Higher Education and Student Affairs & Professional Clinical counseling, where she hopes to support and empower the youth of our future.

# Many Undergraduates go on to become Graduate Scholars



**MONICA HICKS, CHEVRON SCHOLAR  
STANFORD, MASTER'S IN COMPUTER SCIENCE**

Monica Hicks transferred to Stanford University from DVC to pursue a B.S. in Computer Science. In Fall of 2024, she will continue onto her M.S.C.S. at Stanford. As a result of the time she spent in prison, Monica prioritizes giving back to the justice-impacted community. She has written code used in Maine state prisons to facilitate resident re-entry, and she visits jails, prisons, and juvenile detention centers to deliver education and share her experience.



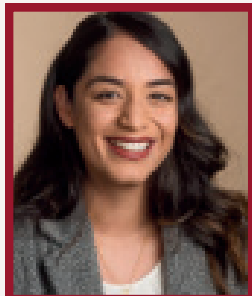
**KABRIA PERVOE, LEVERETT SMITH & GRETCHEN PETERSON SCHOLAR  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO, DENVER, DOCTORATE OF PYSCHOLOGY**

Kabria Pervoe is a graduate student attending the University of Colorado working on her Doctorate of Psychology. Kabria has an outstanding track record of volunteering and helping others in need. During her undergraduate years at DVC and UC Berkeley, she volunteered for numerous organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, Salvation Army, Glide Church, Reach the World, Sprouts Cooking Club, Girls, Inc., and W.O.M.A.N., Inc. Kabria hopes to become a school psychologist, where she will have the unique opportunity to impact the lives of children.



**VERONICA DE SANTOS QUEZADA, MILLER STAR REGALIA SCHOLAR  
UCLA, MASTERS OF URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION PLANNING**

Veronica De Santos Quezada is a graduate student in Urban and Regional Planning at UCLA. As a first-generation immigrant, she is dedicated to her studies while prioritizing her roles as a daughter, sister, and granddaughter. Veronica is committed to giving back and setting an example for transfer students to pursue their academic dreams. She shares her story with students from similarly disadvantaged backgrounds, emphasizing that financial obstacles should not stop them from pursuing higher education. Veronica plans on becoming an urban planner, where she hopes to work on planning techniques that make communities more sustainable, safer, and accessible cities for all.



**RUBIE VILLELA, ALFONSE UPSHAW SCHOLAR  
WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY, HOMER STRYKER M.D. SCHOOL OF MEDICINE**

Rubie is a first-generation college and medical student who began her journey at Los Medanos. She finished her undergrad at UC Davis and is about to begin her last year of medical school. After her father faced a medical emergency that caused her family financial stress, she temporarily put her dreams on pause while she worked as a waitress and bartender to help support her family. Now, in her final year of medical school, Rubie is closer than ever to her goal of becoming a culturally competent physician.

# Impact



**Over \$6.9 Million in Scholarships awarded to Contra Costa County Scholars Since 1969**



**Over 1,230 Scholarships awarded to date**

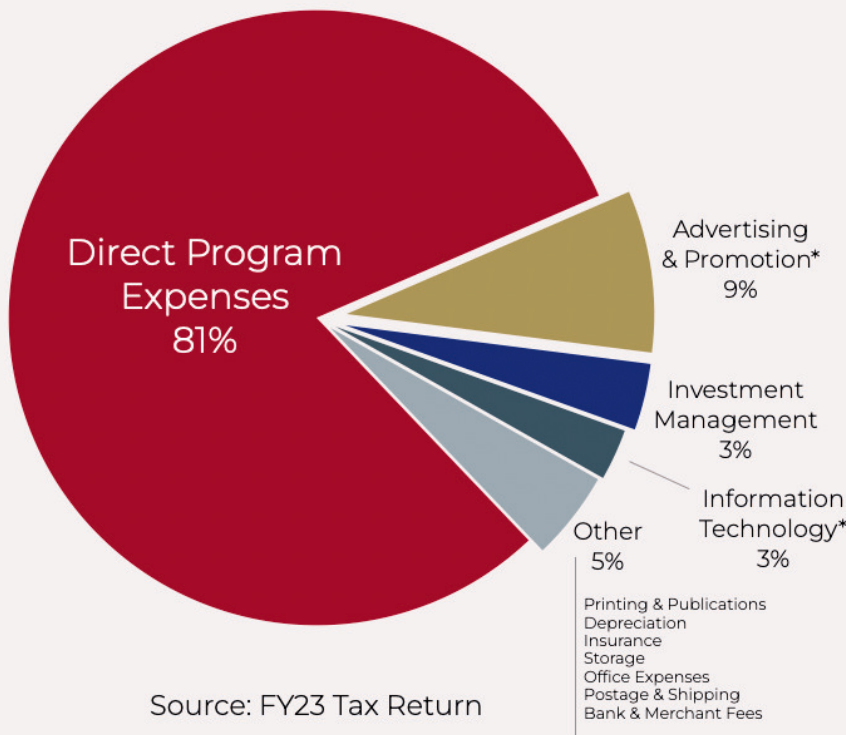


**All Volunteer Working Board, 40% of whom are former scholars**

## FY23 Functional Expenses

**We estimate about 89% of costs are program related**

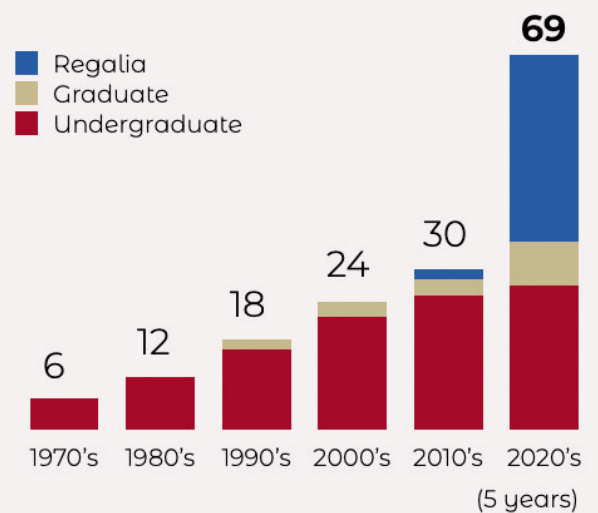
These expenses include scholarships, applicant and scholarship data management, identifying candidates who qualify for the scholarships, and celebrating awardee accomplishments.



	(\$K)
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>2,539</b>
Liabilities - Grants Payable	607
Net Assets <i>without donor restrictions</i>	78
Net Assets <i>with donor restrictions</i>	1,855
Total net assets or fund balances	1,932
Net Income	(43)
<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>	<b>2,539</b>

As of year end FY2023

## Average scholarships awarded by decade



# CONNECTIONS

## WITH OUR CORPORATE PARTNERS

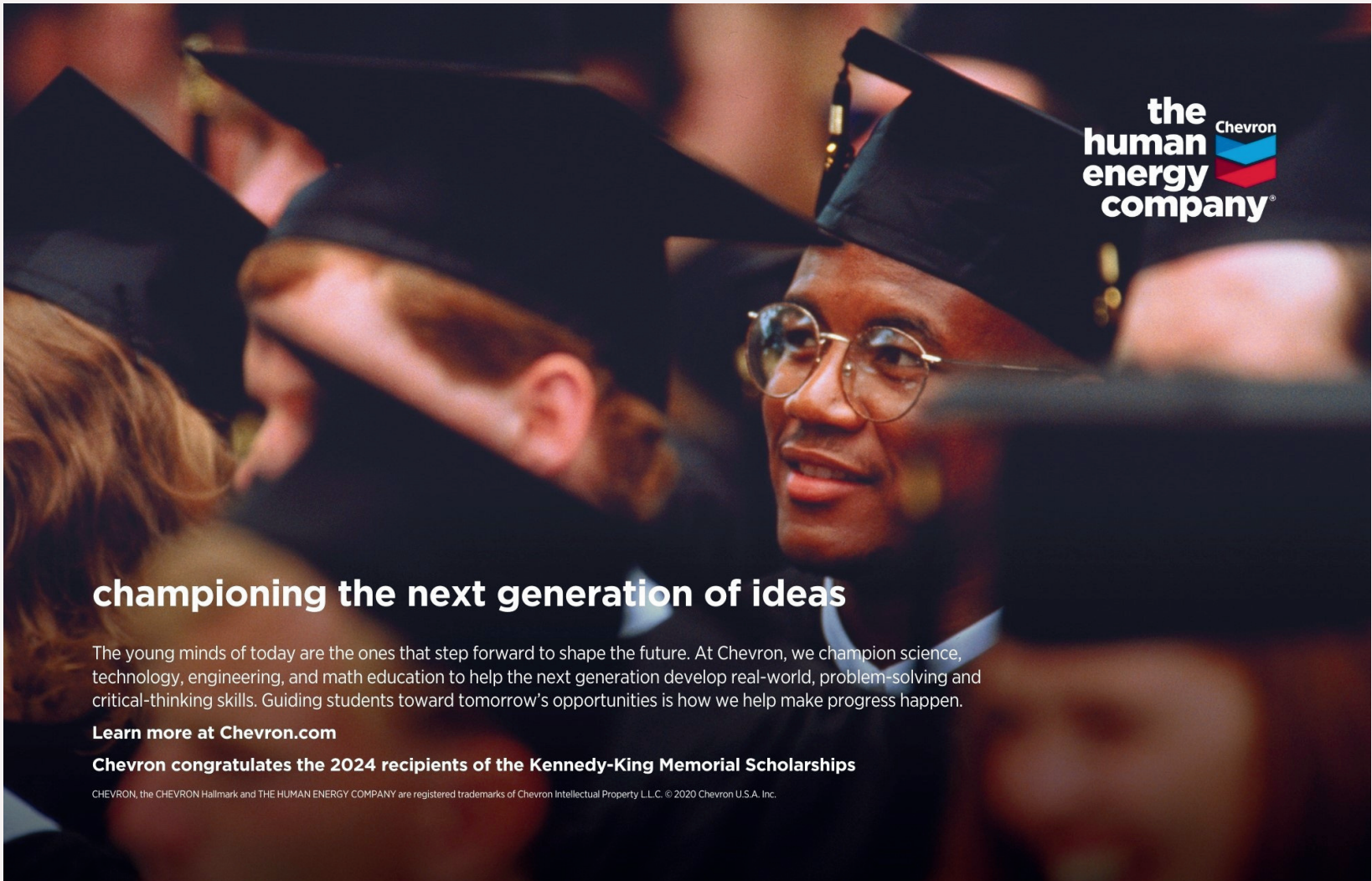
### Kaiser-Permanente Internships

Five Kennedy-King scholars have been chosen to participate in the Kaiser-Permanente internship program this summer. They will gain valuable experience in their chosen fields and explore new passions. The internship will give them hands-on opportunities to apply their education and expand their knowledge in real-world settings.

The internships resulted from a mixer hosted by Kennedy-King Board member Barbara Simmons and Emeritus Board Member Alfonse Upshaw to provide networking opportunities with Kaiser-Permanente Professionals.



Summer 2023 scholar mixer with Kaiser-Permanente Clinical and Administrative leaders.



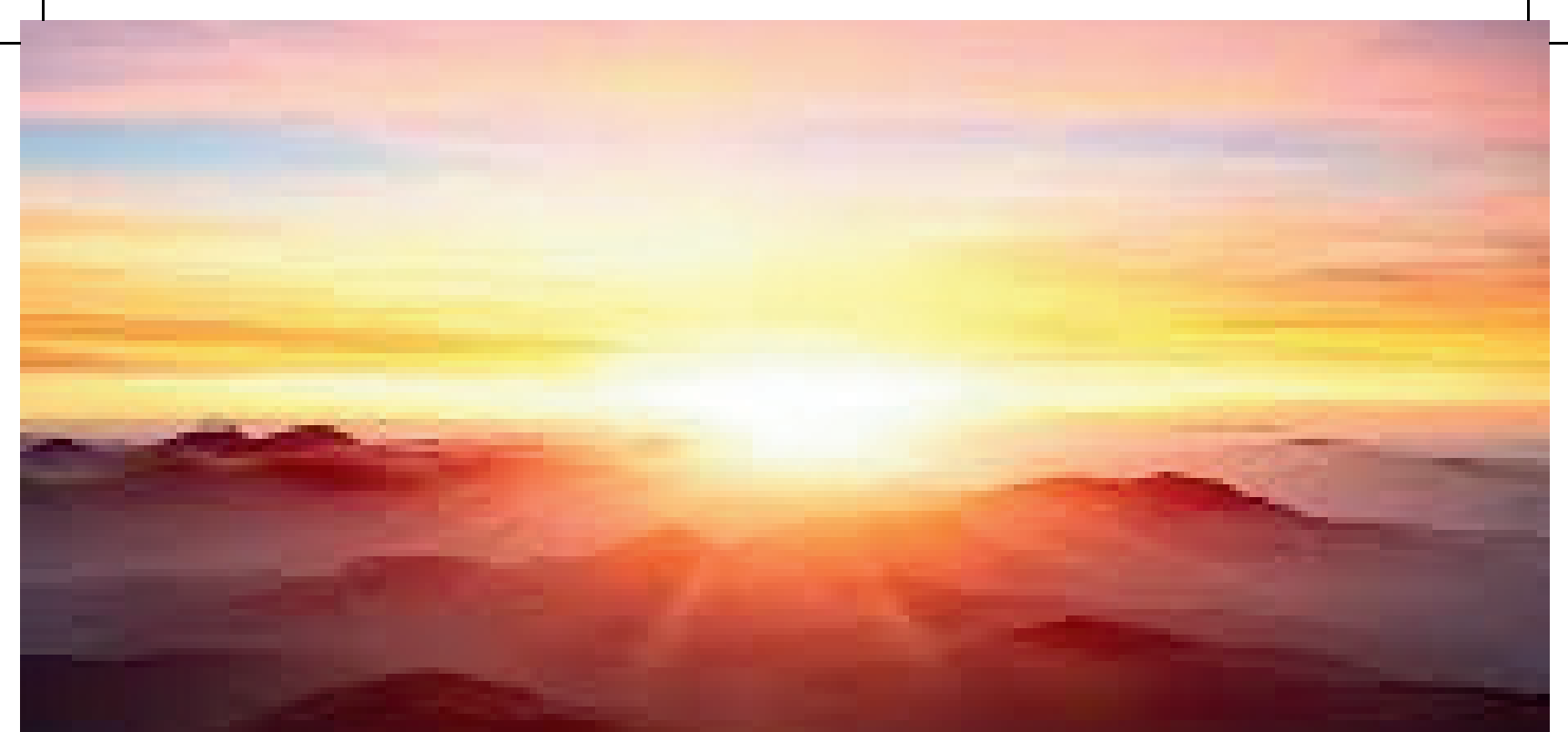
### championing the next generation of ideas

The young minds of today are the ones that step forward to shape the future. At Chevron, we champion science, technology, engineering, and math education to help the next generation develop real-world, problem-solving and critical-thinking skills. Guiding students toward tomorrow's opportunities is how we help make progress happen.

**Learn more at [Chevron.com](https://www.chevron.com)**

**Chevron congratulates the 2024 recipients of the Kennedy-King Memorial Scholarships**

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We express our gratitude to our donors for making a significant impact on educational equality in Contra Costa County. Your support not only transforms our scholars but also influences their families, our communities, and the world.

We also commend our scholars for their resilience, determination, and remarkable ability to achieve despite their obstacles.

Consider supporting The Kennedy-King Memorial College Scholarship Fund with a donation, legacy gift, or sponsorship.

Learn more at [KennedyKing.org](http://KennedyKing.org).

What Will Your Legacy Be?

